

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-35 (canceled)

Claim 36 (currently amended): ~~The~~ An immortalized mammalian cell line ~~of Claim 35;~~  
homozygous for a *Stat1* null allele, wherein viral tropism of said cell line has been altered to be  
permissive for viral growth relative to that of the same cell line with wild type alleles of *Stat1*,  
and; wherein the cells of said cell line are fibroblast cells capable of producing influenza virus at  
from about  $10^3$  to about  $10^6$  PFU/ml at about two days after having been infected.

Claim 37 (canceled)